

CTTAB 2003Minutes

January 14, 2003
Meeting Minutes
City of Seattle, Board Room, 27th Floor
Key Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Board Members

Rhonda Allison	Jeff Techico
Mike Donlin	Harriet Wasserman
Robin Oppenheimer	
Justin Saint Claire	
Brad Stilwell	

DoIT Staff

David Keyes
Mary Pat DiLeva
Jill Novik
Tony Perez
Brenda Tate

I. Agenda Approval, Review of Minutes, Public Introductions and Announcements:

Mike Donlin corrected the December 2002 minutes to reflect that he attended but was left off the list of attendees; he also requested that actions and decisions be highlighted in the minutes. The minutes were approved with the board attendance correction.

Jill announced that she will try to get the agendas out to members a week before the meeting so they can review them ahead of time. She also passed around the Board contact list for updates.

Brad announced that there were five board vacancies; Jill has several applications and people being recruited. ***If anyone has recommendations for the board have them call Jill or send their resume to her, or give their information to Jill.***

There was a question about the status of board reappointments; Lynne was going to handle them, but did not complete the paperwork. Members can, however, continue to serve until they are reappointed or replaced. ***Jill will handle the reappointments.***

II. Parking Pass Completion:

The parking pass form was distributed and completed. Board members not present should contact Brenda Tate at 206-386-1989 to request the parking information form.

III. Technology Matching Fund:

March 10 is the deadline for grant submission for the Technology Matching Fund (TMF); there will be an announcement in the Department of Neighborhoods newsletter. This year's CTTAB review committee is Jeff, Justin, Harriet and Rhonda. *David asked if members were interested in the progress reports he receives; he'll post them on the web. Members would like updates at committee meetings.* The following update was presented:

- Washington Cash has begun some small business training;
- Helping Link has put in computers and people are using them but have had Internet connectivity problems. They also got a Seattle Foundation grant.
- Ethiopian Community Mutual has done some training; they have found it tougher than they thought it would be to get people who aren't computer savvy to train to be trainers; they'd like to do an opening event and invite the mayor.
- Elderhealth has put in the equipment and started their process.
- The Wallingford Senior Center's has put in a divider to reduce noise levels.
- Community Day has done their contract; we're waiting for their invoice/report.
- The UofW is doing workshops at high schools introducing women to tech careers.
- North Seattle Family Center's report arrived today.
- The South Park Computer Camp has a great person who is traveling to community centers doing training and kids are signing up for the training.
- The Summit K-12 contract was finished late so we haven't gotten an invoice yet.
- Digital Promise has started work on their tool kit but we haven't gotten any details.

Members wondered how frequently we expected to receive reports from grantees. David said that reports at least quarterly are preferred but some organizations are running behind because it took some time to write the contracts. IMC is working on finishing theirs; the Phinney Neighborhood Center just finished theirs and we're re-writing the contract with POCAAN.

The community technology e-zine was sent out to good feedback.

IV. Committee Reports:

The community technology subcommittee has found it difficult to find a time to meet; the current scheduled meeting time doesn't work. *The community technology subcommittee decided to meet at 5:00pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month; the fourth Tuesday will be the actual subcommittee date and they can meet before CTTAB on the second Tuesday if they need the additional meeting.*

The E-democracy Interactive Committee was asked for feedback on the Seattle Channel. The Seattle Channel's programming has been repackaged and the channel has been branded; the goal is to make it viewer friendly and interesting. The subcommittee has been asked for feedback on the channel, the website and PAN in general. Specifically, feedback has been requested for three areas: 1) whether or not the content is appropriate; 2) marketing: ideas for promoting the channel and making people aware of what's on it; how do they advertise it?; 3) ways to make the Seattle Channel more viewable or viewer friendly; what can be done to improve the viewer's experience?

Inviting Gary to a future board meeting for a feedback session was suggested along with working with the Center for Communication and Civic Engagement at the UofW, which is already doing a similar kind of thinking/activity.

VI. Subcommittee Formation:

A new subcommittee sign-up sheet was passed around; Tony will compare it with the subcommittee sign-up sheet from the last meeting. Brad asked if there were issues the Cable Office Subcommittee should be taking up; within the next six months (probably within 30-60 days) we should get a renewal request from AT&T. AT&T must provide us with notice of their intent to renew their franchise by July 20, 2003. CTTAB will help determine the key stakeholders for the ascertainment. David will be sending out a survey to update the residential household indicators survey and these efforts might piggy back. CTTAB can provide help formulating what kind of answers we're looking for in order to help develop appropriate questions to get at those answers. April, May, and June will be the months to work on the questions.

VI. Cable Office Report on January 15 Presentation to Council:

Staff will be briefing the Council on several cable related items on January 15:

The Council is interested in AT&T's compliance with various requirements agreed to when the transfer was approved. One of these requirements was to maintain a second subscriber service. AT&T paid a fine and has been

cooperative in working out a public private partnership for the office.

The cable companies have agreed to fund a Department of Neighborhoods employee at the Central Area Neighborhood Services Center at 23rd and Jackson.

After the problems with @home, AT&T was to provide statistics on the number of customer complaints. The Cable Office had questions about the accuracy of the information initially provided, but is working with AT&T to make the reports more accurate and responsive to the Cable Customer Bill of Rights (CCBOR). Currently, AT&T is reporting a prorated share of state statistics rather than information for Seattle. Despite the City's requirement to include data for cable modem, AT&T is not reporting on cable modem data because of their belief that a recent FCC ruling exempts local control of cable modem service.

There have been articles in the paper about AT&T moving to a new domain name as part of the transfer to Comcast. We've asked them for a written plan that details how they will accomplish the transition and compensate customers for costs associated with the new domain name.

We'll also be letting the Council know about AT&T's compliance with last year's amendments to the CCBOR. To date, AT&T has not complied with the requirements on privacy reporting.

Cable rate increases will be discussed; rates increased by 9.8% in January, and Senator McCain has directed the General Accounting Office to study the issue.

An amendment is needed to the franchise district maps because there is a small area that is shown in AT&T's franchise area but it actually belongs in the Millennium franchise area.

Next month the FCC may make a decision about media ownership rules including whether a television station or cable operator can also own a newspaper in the same town.

VII. 2003 Board Elections:

After some discussion Jeff Techico agreed to serve as the chair and Harriet Wasserman agreed to serve as the vice chair.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Note: The 11/11 meeting will be moved to 11/18 due to the Veteran's Day holiday.